

ANNOTATION

Thomas Young, M.D., F.R.S.

May 10 saw the centenary of the death of Thomas Young, who ranks with Newton as one of the wonders of the world. It is fitting that a brief note of this anniversary should be made in an ophthalmological journal, for Young's contributions to ophthalmology, though perhaps undervalued in his life time, are recognized the world over to-day.

No better account of Young's ophthalmological contributions exists than that in the memoir contributed to the 19th volume of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital Reports. Here it is only necessary to recall his work which resuscitated and put the coping stone on previous work on the undulatory theory of light, his ingenious and far reaching experiments *in corpore vili* which laid the foundation of the astigmatic side of human optics, and his work on colour vision, which, elaborated by Helmholtz, is known as the Young-Helmholtz theory. But besides his fundamental work for our speciality we may recall that in connection with the nautical almanac, and finally his epoch-making researches on the Rosetta stone. Champollion, the French savant, shares the honour of these researches into the hieroglyphics of ancient Egypt, but the priority belongs to Young.

Young's memory is truly one of the chief glories of English science: he was "a man alike eminent in almost every department of human learning."

COUNCIL OF BRITISH OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Annual Report

THE Council presents its report for the Session 1928-29. At the first meeting the following were elected as officers:—President: Mr. J. Herbert Fisher; Vice-Presidents: Sir John Parsons, Sir William Lister; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. M. S. Mayou; Hon. Secretary: Mr. Frank Juler.

The following were appointed to serve on the Executive Committee: The President and Secretary (*ex officiis*) with Sir John Parsons, Sir William Lister, Mr. M. S. Mayou and Mr. W. H. McMullen.

A Committee enquired into the conditions under which children from extra-metropolitan areas are admissible into the White Oak Ophthalmia School at Swanley, Kent. The Council adopted the report of the Committee, and copies were sent to the Ministry of Health, the Board of Education and the Metropolitan Asylums